

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hideki HISADA, Kazuo AOKI, Hiroyuki KOJIMA

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of
PCT/JP01/06021

Filed: February 26, 2002

Docket No.: 112061

For: DRIVE APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 10-12, 16, 20, 23-26 and 28 as follows:

10. (Amended) A drive unit as set forth in Claim 8, characterized:

in that said variable torque is a torque along the cranking torque of the engine.

11. (Amended) A drive unit as set forth in Claim 1, characterized:

in that said predetermined crank-shaft position is the position at which the cranking torque of the engine is the highest.

12. (Amended) A drive unit as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

a second electric motor (3), characterized:

in that the engine, the first electric motor and the second electric motor are mechanically connected to a wheel (9); and in that said control unit controls the second